

Date:	14th March 2019
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Westminster Administering Authority Fund Discretions
Report of:	Jo Meagher, Head of Operational People Services
Wards Involved:	All
Policy Context:	Service Delivery
Financial Summary:	Limited

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1.** This report shows in appendix 1 attached the list of discretionary policies a Local Government Pension Scheme fund should make a determination on. In addition, there is an outline of the proposed treatment of each discretion by Westminster Administering Authority. This paper is seeking consent to publish our fund discretions.
- 1.2.** The attached appendix now includes an additional column where we have tried to outline to the committee why we have proposed the discretionary policy. Where we have numbers applicable to the discretion we have outlined these to provide additional context.

2. Administering Authority Discretions

- 2.1.** All pension funds should publish details of Administering Authority (AA) discretions and the treatment of those discretions. AA discretions outline how the AA will deal with members and scheme employers.
- 2.2.** In Westminster we have not to date published a comprehensive list of discretions or detailed our treatment except in a few individual policy documents.
- 2.3.** This paper is requesting that the committee read the AA discretions and approve the appendix as a pension fund document to be applied to any

applicable case going forward until such time as any of the discretions are amended by future committee decision.

- 2.4. If we continue not to publish any discretion we could be at risk of any member complaint in that particular area. For example number 54 in the appendix is about the waiving of reductions for members where the former employer no longer exists. Having a policy that says we would only waive reductions where the individual can show a significant compassionate case sets a framework to manage expectations. People do ask about having reductions waived these requests will bring costs.

3. Summary

- 3.1 The committee is requested to approve the attached discretionary policy document attached. If the committee wants people services to review any individual discretion we can do that and update the document at a later meeting.